TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL

RESTORATION CONTRACTS

A SUCCESS STORY

HAINES FUEL TERMINAL

The Haines Fuel Terminal (HFT) is located at the northern end of the Inside Passage of southeast Alaska. Built in 1954, the HFT provided facilities to store and deliver fuels to Eielson Air Force Base, 400 miles away. Use of the pipeline to Eielson was discontinued in 1971; however, the HFT continued to store fuel until 1988.

Past operations and maintenance practices at the HFT caused extensive groundwater contamination. In 1996, the Alaska District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was tasked with controlling the off-site migration of petroleum-oil-lubricant (POL) groundwater contamination from HFT and identifying its extent. With limited site information, the Corps selected the TERC contract as the best approach for a quick, comprehensive response.

Initially, Jacobs Engineering, the TERC contractor, developed a conceptual site model based on historical site data and prepared a

TERC WORKS

Monitoring of Haines Fuel Terminal groundwater treatment system.

TERC flexibility facilitated rapid cleanup response.

screening-level risk assessment to prioritize remedial control measures. This methodology enabled focused remedial actions and minimized the need for additional investigation and design work. With its design/build capability, the TERC contractor quickly completed these focused remedial actions and easily incorporated changing site conditions into the remedial process. This TERC flexibility led to the success of the HFT cleanup project.

To limit future releases, the contractor removed residual fuel from the tanks and shipped transformers off-site for disposal. Simultaneously, they installed an array of wells along the site boundary, creating a remedial "fence" to minimize future off-site migration. While addressing the immediate off-site migration problem, the TERC team developed a strategy for facility closure and incorporated it into a coordinated comprehensive plan for clean closure. The plan focused on the removal of the sources of contamination and will produce significant savings by combining major field efforts over a 5-year period.

The Restoration Advisory Board—the first formed in Alaska—was key to success.

The establishment of the first U.S. Army Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in Alaska was key to the success of the project. By involving interested members of the community in the planning phase, the TERC team reached consensus on a cleanup standard early in the process.

ALASKA DISTRICT

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